

STAFFORD COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Agenda Consideration

TOPIC: Connect with Kids

ITEM NO.: 4A

PREPARED BY: **Andrea L. Bengier, Ed.D.** **MEETING:** September 12, 2006
Assistant Superintendent
for Instruction and Technology

Patricia K. Wiedel, Ph.D.
Supervisor for Professional
Development

ACTION DATE: Sept. 26, 2006

INFORMATION ONLY: Sept. 12, 2006

ACTION REQUESTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT: To receive information on expanding the *Connect with Kids* initiative to include supplementary support materials for students, teachers, parents and community members and to purchase *Connect with Kids* supplementary support materials in the amount of \$114,500.

KEY POINTS:

- Stafford County Public Schools adopted the *Connect with Kids (CWK)* curriculum in May, 2006 to support students' character, health and wellness development.
- *CWK* supports the National School Board Association's focus area of communication with the community as well as an effort to provide teachers, students, families and the community with up-to-date information regarding health, wellness and character education skills.
- All principals and other administrative and instructional staff reviewed the program and strongly support the tenets of the program for implementation. The program was recently selected for inclusion in the U.S. Department of Education *What Works Clearinghouse*. The program is strongly supported by several areas of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.
- School teams will be trained during the month of September to prepare staff to utilize program materials and to assimilate its content into existing curriculum frameworks.
- *Connect with Kids* is a sole source provider.
- To develop family and community support of our students' efforts to make positive character and wellness choices, as well as to provide teachers and students with additional materials, we propose purchasing supplemental educational programming to including video and print curriculum for distribution by Stafford County Schools. Textbook funds may be used for part of the purchase.

- These supplementary items include:
 - Custom half hour show and resource guide with a focus on bullying;
 - Two events facilitated by **CWK**: one for students and one for educators;
 - 300 Custom promotional backpacks for check-out to students with DVD, resource guide, pen, pad, t-shirt and stress ball;
 - 50 custom posters; 200 custom flyers to develop community awareness and understanding of **CWK** components;
 - Custom Web Page

Purchase of these items will provide student and teacher resources as well as increase parent and community awareness of character and wellness issues (such as bullying) and effective ways parents can work with our schools to address these concerns. The total cost of these supplementary materials is \$114,500.

SCHOOL BOARD GOAL #1: Provide educational excellence through instruction that establishes high expectations for all students yet recognizes the unique needs of each learner.

SCHOOL BOARD GOAL #2: Integrate technology in support of all instruction.

SCHOOL BOARD GOAL #3: Encourage parents and the community to increase their interest and involvement in schools.

SCHOOL BOARD GOAL #5: Provide facilities that promote student learning and community support.

SCHOOL BOARD GOAL #7: Provide school environments where teachers are safe to teach and students are safe to learn.

FUNDING SOURCE: Textbooks; Federal Funds (Title I, Title IV, Title V) and potential business partnership funds.

AUTHORIZATION REFERENCE: Virginia Standards of Quality and Federal Mandates of Title I, IV, and V